

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Paragraph beginning at line 3 of page 1 has been amended as follows:

The present invention relates to a ~~flip-flop~~ flip-flop circuit (hereinafter "flip flop") used for general ICs and a shift register composed of a plurality of flip flops connected together ~~which are connected thereto.~~

Paragraph beginning at line 8 of page 1 has been amended as follows:

~~This~~ The conventional flip flop is composed of transmission gates as a switching elements, inverters, and latch elements. In a general standby state, an S terminal is set to a high state and an SX terminal is set to a low state, so that an M terminal is held in a high state and a QX terminal is held in a low state.

Paragraph beginning at line 18 of page 1 has been amended as follows:

~~Also,~~ Furthermore, in the shift register composed of the plurality of flip flops that are connected in series, signal lines for the S terminal and the SX terminal are required. Therefore, it is necessary to use four signal lines including signal lines for a C terminal and a CX terminal.

Paragraph beginning at line 17 of page 3 has been amended as follows:

Fig. 1 is a circuit diagram of a ~~flip-flop~~ flip-flop circuit (hereinafter "flip flop") of the present invention.

Paragraph beginning at line 14 of page 5 has been amended as follows:

As described above, according to the flip flop of the present invention, a transistor for maintaining ~~to~~ a standby state is unnecessary, so that a layout area can be decreased. In addition, in the shift register of the present invention, common signal lines for bringing the shift register to the standby state are unnecessary, so that the layout area can be decreased.